

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

10 March, 1893.—The 177th meeting was held at 156 Brattle St. Mr. S. Henshaw was chosen chairman and Mr. H. G. Dyar secretary.

Mr. S. H. Scudder directed attention to a passage in his *Butterflies of the Eastern United States*, where he had questioned whether *Tropaeolum* was one of the food plants of *Pieris rapae*, as he thought there might be a confusion from the fact that the caterpillar fed upon the genus *Nasturtium* which was the common name of *Tropaeolum*; but he

read a letter from Mr. H. B. Fletcher of England who assured him that he had found the eggs and caterpillars on two species of *Tropaeolum*, one of the Geraniaceae.

Mr. Scudder also exhibited numerous specimens of *Schistocerca literosa* Walk., from the Galapagos Islands and showed the differences between the races inhabiting three distinct islands. In some further remarks upon the orthoptera of the Galapagos, he said that the paucity of species and their character in no way supported Baur's notion that these islands formed part of a sunken continent, but decidedly indicated a recent accidental fauna.

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An introduction, for the young student, to the names and something of the relationship and lives of our commoner butterflies. The author has selected for treatment the butterflies, less than one hundred in number, which would be almost surely met with by an industrious collector in a course of a year's or two year's work in our Northern States east of the Great Plains, and in Canada. While all the apparatus necessary to identify these butterflies, in their earlier as well as perfect stage, is supplied, it is far from the author's purpose to treat them as if they were so many mere postage-stamps to be classified and arranged in a cabinet. He has accordingly added to the descriptions of the different species, their most obvious stages, some of the curious facts concerning their periodicity and their habits of life. A short introduction to the study of butterflies in general is prefixed to the work, and is followed by a brief account of the principal literature of the subject.

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